

LEGAL NOTICE OF PROPOSED ACTION
OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT
BIG CREEK HOT SPRINGS
GEOTHERMAL LEASING DEIS

The Salmon-Challis National Forest is preparing a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Big Creek Hot Springs Geothermal Leasing. The DEIS documents analysis for determining whether the Forest Service will provide concurrence to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) on the availability of approximately nine square miles (5,600 acres) of National Forest System lands for geothermal leasing, subject to lease stipulations designed to minimize negative impacts to surface resources. The project area is in Lemhi County, in the Salmon-Cobalt and North Fork Ranger Districts, in sections 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, 23, 26, 27, and 28, T23N, R18E, Boise Meridian, Idaho. The project area is approximately centered on a geothermal feature referred to as Big Creek Hot Springs.

The Draft EIS is available for review at the Salmon-Challis Supervisors Office, address listed below, or at <http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=37800>. Additional information regarding this action can be obtained from: Julie Hopkins at (208) 756-5279 or juliehopkins@fs.fed.us.

This proposed project is subject to the objection process pursuant to 36 CFR 218 Subpart A and B.

Comment and Timeframe

The Environmental Protection Agency published a Notice of Availability (NOA) for the DEIS in the Federal Register on March 10, 2017. Written, facsimile, hand-delivered, and electronic comments concerning this action will be accepted for 45 days following that date. The publication date of the NOA in the Federal Register is the exclusive means for calculating the comment period for a proposed action documented in a draft EIS. Those wishing to comment should not rely upon dates or timeframe information provided by any other source.

Written comments must be submitted to: Responsible Official Charles A. Mark, Forest Supervisor, Salmon-Challis National Forest, 1206 S. Challis Street, Salmon, Idaho 83467 or fax to (208) 756-5151. The office business hours for those submitting hand-delivered comments are 8:00 am to 4:30 pm Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. Electronic comments must be submitted in plain text (.txt), rich text format (.rtf), or Word (.doc) to comments-intern@salmon-challis.fs.fed.us. If using email, please state that your comments are for the Big Creek Hot Springs Geothermal Leasing Project on the subject line. Oral comments must be provided at the Responsible Official's office during normal business hours via telephone 208-756-5200 or in person, or at an official agency function (i.e. public meeting) that is designed to elicit public comments. Comments must have an identifiable name attached or verification of identity will be required. In cases where no identifiable name is attached to a comment, a verification of identity will be required for objection eligibility. If using an electronic message, a scanned signature is one way to provide verification. It is the responsibility of persons providing comments to submit them by the close of the comment period. Individuals and organizations wishing to be eligible to object must meet the information requirements of 36 CFR 218 Subparts A and B.

Only those who submit timely and specific written comments regarding the proposed project during a public comment period established by the responsible official are eligible to file an objection.

Affidavit of Publication

STATE OF IDAHO } ss.
County of Lemhi }

RICKY G. HODGES being first duly sworn, deposes and says he is one of the publishers (printers) of The Recorder Herald, a newspaper published weekly at Salmon, Lemhi County, Idaho, and of general circulation therein. That the **NOTICE OF PROPOSED ACTION**, a true printed copy of which is attached to the margin hereof, has been and was correctly printed and published in the regular and entire issue of every number of said newspaper and not in any supplement thereof or thereto for **ONE (1) consecutive issue(s)**, commencing with the issue dated **3-16-2017** and ending with the issue dated **3-16-2017**.

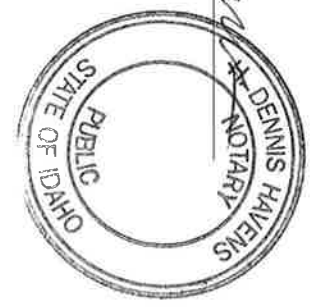
STATE OF IDAHO } ss.
County of Lemhi }

On this **16th day of March** in this year of 2017 before me, A Notary Public, personally appeared **RICKY G. HODGES**, known or identified to me to be the person whose name subscribed to the within instrument, and being by me first duly sworn, declared that the statements therein are true, and acknowledged to me that he executed the same.

Residing At Salmon, Idaho

My Commission expires: 11-30-2018

[Signature]
Notary Public for Idaho



Publication Fee \$106.56